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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE SECTION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

For Period
25 November to 1 December
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WEEKLY BULLETIN

SECTION I

WELFARE

Welfare Administration

Conferences were held by this section with officials of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs relative to the reorganization of the ministry as a whole and particularly with reference to the Veteran's Protective Board. It was explained that this headquarters desires to deemphasize the military aspects of the Veteran's Board, to liberalize and integrate Board functions with those of a similar civilian category now conducted by the Ministry and to make Veteran's facilities available to all needy persons in Japan.

Relief

A memorandum for the Imperial Japanese Government was issued directing certain stocks of foodstuffs and supplies be set aside for relief purposes. Source of the supplies is Japanese Army and Navy stocks turned over to Home Ministry control by the occupation forces. Stocks will be held for later distribution upon orders from this headquarters. The Japanese government's plan for distribution of the supplies must include: complete inventories, free issuance to persons whose eligibility is determined on individual need based on family budgetary deficiency, distribution through normal ration channels, avoidance of mass feeding or distribution schemes and complete reports of persons aided and status of supply stocks throughout Japan.

In view of increasing numbers of unemployed in Japan for whom no relief law or social insurance scheme provides assistance, a staff study surveying the entire relief problem and making recommendations for care to be

provided during the coming winter months is being circulated among interested staff sections.

Repatriation

Report on status of Korean, Chinese and Formosan repatriation issued by this headquarters on 25 November 1945 showed that 405,602 Koreans and 11,399 Chinese had been repatriated, by that date. There remain approximately 638,098 Koreans, 20,202 Chinese and 30,000 Formosans to be repatriated.

Foreign Nationals

Responsibility for preparing a satisfactory program for the care of Foreign Nationals in Japan has been assumed by the Economic and Scientific Section, this headquarters.

SECTION II

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

General

It is planned to send members of the U.S. Typhus Commission to South Honshu (going directly to 32nd Division Hq.) and Kyushu for training prefectural health department and port quarantine staffs in delousing technique by use of hand and power guns, and to clarify points as to purposes for which DDT powder and equipment were being made available.

Members of the Ministry of Health have been instructed regarding Japanese responsibility in more rigid enforcement of smallpox and typhus control measures at all levels.

A Directive has been issued to the Imperial Japanese Government regarding spraying by use of insecticide, spray DDT, of Hokodate-Amori ferries

and all railway cars assigned for transportation of Allied personnel.

The Epidemiologist, Major Philip Bourland, reported for duty during the preceding week.

Sanitary Engineering

Water Supplies. The reconditioning and operation or supervision of Korean public water supplies by Army personnel was discussed with Sanitary Engineer, XXIV Corps. This procedure is to be followed in all cities having acceptable sources of supply and suitable facilities for treatment in those areas where occupation forces are located.

The utilities engineer, Tokyo Military Government Section, reported that progress was being made on improving operation of Kanamachi Filter Plant where unsatisfactory conditions were previously found. Some of these improvements that were noted were, that cleaning of overloaded sedimentation tanks has started; the chlorine dosage has been increased to the maximum prewar Japanese standard of 0.4 ppm; and that trucks are being furnished from Japanese sources for stocking 30 days supply of alum, soda ash and chlorine.

Insect and Rodent Control

From conferences held with officers in charge of control work in Tokyo area it was learned that insecticidal work is continuing in buildings as they are taken over for military personnel occupancy and that all buildings occupied by military personnel are being rat-proofed; trapping is being carried on in buildings that have been completed.

Nutrition

An inspection was made of Ueno railroad station and the Ueno Vagrant House located in the basement of the Asabusa Honganji Temple at 1400 on 26

November 1945. The station was rather dirty and malodorous but no sick or starving people were found lying in the corridors or alcoves. Many travelers waiting for trains were sitting on the sidewalks and ground outside the station. A cursory inspection of these people revealed them to be in satisfactory nutritional condition.

The vagrant house was a place of indescribable filth and destitution. Crowded into five rooms in the basement of the temple were some 450 derelicts dressed in rags, many lying about on the floors obviously ill and all presenting a pitiful picture. No sanitary facilities were in evidence and the floors were covered with human excreta. Nine dead bodies were discovered in this pest hole. These were said to have accumulated over the preceding weeks. Arrangements were made to have these bodies removed immediately and for them to be autopsied. A subsequent verified report found inanition to be the primary cause of death in eight of these nine cadavers.

On 28 November at the direction of the nutrition consultant, Public Health and Welfare Section, SCAP, the Tokyo Metropolitan Health Department sent a nutrition survey group of 13 workers to the Ueno Vagrant House. This group made physical examinations of the inmates and estimated the daily per capita food consumption. Detailed reports of the findings will be submitted shortly.

Discussions have continued with the Ministry of Health regarding personnel and methods to be employed in making nutritional surveys of the civilian population. It was stated that the survey in Tokyo can be begun by 15 December 1945.

Venereal Disease Control

On 27 November the Ministry of Health and Welfare submitted the first report required by the Memorandum to the Imperial Japanese Government dated

16 October 1945, subject: "Control of Venereal Diseases". Highlights of the report were:

1. A special regulation for the Venereal Disease Prevention Law (Regulation No. 45 of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs) issued on 22 November 1945 provides for:

- a. The reporting of all cases of syphilis, gonorrhea, chancroid and lymphogranuloma venereum by name, address and sex.
- b. Compulsory treatment and hospitalization of persons in the infectious stage of a venereal disease "whose occupation naturally involves liability of spreading disease".
- c. Health examination and the issuance of a certificate of examination to individuals "whose occupation naturally involves liability of spreading venereal disease".

2. The Nippon Iryodan (Japanese Medical Treatment Corporation) was ordered on 7 October 1945 to issue instructions to every prefectural branch to establish an institution for the treatment of venereal diseases.

3. A demonstration examination-treatment clinic using modern techniques and modern drugs was initiated in Yokohama under the supervision of Eighth Army medical officers. The demonstration project at the Yoshiwara Hospital in Tokyo was continued with the institution of mapharsen-bismuth therapy for the first time on 30 November.

Medical Examiner System

The operation of the newly instituted medical examiner system in metropolitan Tokyo was inspected and the results checked in conjunction with Eighth Army liaison officer. The principal areas of survey, the Ueno Park station and nearby Honganji temple, provided the largest number of

cases of sick and dead, the sick having been largely transported to the Shiba Ku charity hospital (Saikeikai), the dead having been autopsied under the direction of Dr. Furuhata, professor of forensic medicine of Tokyo Imperial University. Nearly all the deaths, totalling 11 since 24 November, were attributed to severe undernutrition.

Venereal Disease Laboratory Diagnosis Program

The previously projected program was completed under the auspices of Dr. Tamiya, Director of the Government Institute for Infectious Diseases with the assistance of Major Canatsey, bacteriologist of the 42nd General Hospital, and is now available for large scale application. The first collection of specimens is scheduled for 4 December 1945, check test to be performed at the 42nd General Hospital laboratory. The first refresher course for laboratory technicians will be given 16 December 1945.

Survey of Japanese Studies on Japanese B Encephalitis

Further conferences were held with members of the Institute for Infectious Diseases and their experimental data analysed in part. Information is also being assembled from official governmental and other sources in the effort to assess the importance of the disease to occupation forces during the ensuing summer months, and a report with recommendations is being prepared.

SECTION III

ADMINISTRATION OF HOSPITALS

Memorandum for the Japanese Government

The Imperial Japanese Government was directed by a memorandum dated 19 November 1945 to transfer supervisory authority of all Japanese Army and Navy hospitals, sanatoria and other hospital facilities of the former Imperial Japanese Army and Navy, when received by the Home Ministry from

Occupational Force Commanders, to that agency of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs responsible for the hospitalization of civilians. Restriction of treatment to veterans and their families is prohibited.

Memorandum to Occupation Force Commanders

The Commanding Generals, Sixth and Eighth Armies, and Commander, Fifth Fleet, in a letter dated 20 November, subject: "Imperial Japanese Army and Navy Hospitals", were instructed that all hospital facilities of the Imperial Japanese Army and Navy, in excess of United States Army and Navy occupational force needs as established by the occupational force commanders, be turned over to the Home Ministry of the Japanese Government as soon as practicable.

Reports

Weekly Japanese civilian hospital strength report received from 19 prefectures shows a decrease in the total number of hospital patients and outpatients treated.

SECTION IV

NURSING AFFAIRS

Reports from Japanese

1. Curriculum of nursing course from Japanese Central Red Cross Hospital.
2. Chart showing diet and calories for period of 10 days for patients and nurses at a tuberculosis sanitarium (Hoseiye Sanatorium).
3. Proposed meeting of Public Health Nurses Association to be held 4 December 1945. Delegates have been notified and returns of those expected received. The program has been discussed and planned. Legal aid and interpretation assistance has been requested for meeting. Meeting will be held in Nippon Ishihai Building, Surugadai, Kandaku, Tokyo.

SECTION V

VETERINARY AFFAIRS

General

The officer in charge of Veterinary Affairs made a field trip to Kyoto, Osaka, Kobe and Nara for liaison with the Sixth Army, survey of Japanese veterinary affairs and to attend a conference of prefecture veterinarians from the southern half of Japan.

The officer in charge of Veterinary Affairs made a field trip to Fukushima for liaison with the Eighth Army to survey Japanese veterinary conditions and to attend a conference with the veterinarians of the prefecture of the northern half of Japan.

As a result of these two field trips it was observed that the two conferences brought together representatives from every prefecture. All phases of animal disease control, meat and milk inspection, livestock production and directives from the Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers were discussed. Many problems were solved especially with reference to the responsibilities of prefecture officials. These meetings are evidence of the fact that the Ministry of Health and Welfare is making a concerted effort to comply with pertinent SCAP directives in these instances. The governmental organization in all prefectures visited is staffed with sufficient trained personnel to conduct an efficient veterinary service. However, sanitation is being neglected and equipment is in poor repair and antiquated in design. Inspection of meat in slaughter houses and eradication of bovine tuberculosis is generally practiced. Some pasteurization of milk exists but much raw milk is being consumed. Laboratory control of dairy products is not being generally practiced.

Reports from the Japanese

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry reported:

1. Communicable animal disease for week 23-29 November. (This report shows one case of anthrax in Gunma Prefecture and one of blackleg in Tottori Prefecture.)
2. Steps taken to comply with SCAP Directive AG 728, 30 October 1945.
3. Results of bovine tuberculosis eradication of 1942, 1943 and 1944.
4. Animal diseases for the years 1942, 1943 and 1944 and the months from January to September 1945.
5. Preparation and distribution of veterinary sera, vaccine and biologicals, April 1943 to March 1944; April 1944 to March 1945; April 1945 to October 1945.

Ministry of Health and Welfare reported:

1. Steps taken to comply with SCAP Directive AG 728, 30 October 1945.
2. Monthly meat inspection report for July, August and September 1945.

Korean Report

The Surgeon's Office XXIV Corps submitted the following report on Korean Veterinary Affairs:

1. General. Japan veterinarians held practically all key positions in the Korean Government prior to surrender. These have all been removed and as a result the effectiveness of the veterinary service is greatly reduced.
2. Organization. The Korean Government under the Japanese had a national veterinary service in the department of agriculture. On 7 November 1945, Ordinance No. 25, Headquarters USAFIK, Office of the Military Governor, transferred this service to the Bureau of Public Health and Welfare.
3. Structure. National Headquarters is in the Bureau of Public Health and Welfare; a Provincial Headquarters is located in each province and each

province is subdivided into districts; total 132.

4. Personnel. There are about 1,000 veterinarians in Korea of which 458 are assigned to districts.

5. Education. There is one Veterinary College located at Souwon which is not functioning because the Japanese teaching staff was removed and has not been replaced. Two instructors remain out of a former staff of seven.

6. Animal strength 1943. (Census to nearest 1000)

Dairy cattle	2,000
Work oxen	1,062,000
Swine	636,000
Sheep	48,000
Horses	35,000
Dogs	225,000
Chickens	2,983,000

7. Animal disease control. Prevailing animal diseases are glanders, rabies, anthrax, tuberculosis and rhinderpest. In 1943 the tuberculin test was applied to all dairy cattle in Kyung KI Go, and 24.9 percent showed positive reactions. The method of disposal of positive reactors is unsatisfactory. Owners are required to remove them from the herd for one year.

8. Meat and Dairy Inspection. District veterinarians are responsible for ante and post mortem inspection of animals presented for slaughter and the sanitation of slaughter houses. Nothing definite is known about dairy inspection but it apparently did not go beyond periodic testing of cattle for tuberculosis.

SECTION VI

DENTAL AFFAIRS

No report.

SECTION VII

SUPPLY

Approval has been received to request for establishment of a reserve

of biologics, to be maintained in U.S. stocks in Japan, to supplement local stocks, if necessary to protect the health of occupation troops. Recommendation for the establishment of an emergency reserve of other types of medical supplies, to be set up in U.S. depots for use on call from this headquarters, has been returned by the War Department with request for information whether the reserve could be provided from excess supplies in Pacific areas. A study on the subject is now being made by AFPAC.

Commanding Generals, Sixth and Eighth Armies and XXIV Corps, have been advised of the status of typhus control supplies requisitioned by S.G.O., and this headquarters. It was pointed out that supplies requisitioned covered only civilian requirements for delousing at ports and other typhus control measures among civilians.

Recommendations were submitted reference additional accounting procedures to be followed by all agencies handling medical supplies released from U.S. military stocks.

Reports from the Seibo International Catholic Hospital stated that an ample supply of medicines had been received. Difficulty is still being experienced in connection with fuel and heating equipment.

The Eighth Army was authorized to utilize captured Japanese equipment in the rehabilitation of the Yokohama General Hospital which will be used for hospitalization of foreign nationals.

A report from the Ministry of Welfare stated two new regulations have been issued strengthening narcotic control as directed by this headquarters. A civilian narcotic investigation was requested to study Japanese production, manufacture, import and export narcotic records.

SECTION VIII

LEGAL

Consideration is being given to the abrogation of the licensed prostitute legislation. While the present laws on the subject appear adequate there is, in actuality, much to be desired in how it is practiced.

In an effort to ascertain the functionings of the civil service system in Japan conferences were attended in the Government Section with members of the cabinet.

A directive is now under consideration to the Japanese Government concerning poison alcohol which is being sold to the public. The directive now under consideration is pending decision as to whether it should be published alone or as part of a series of offences the establishment of which is contemplated.

Crawford F. Sams
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Chief, Public Health and Welfare Section.